

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method that enables a recipient to inform a carrier of the manner in which the recipient would like the mail delivered, said method comprises the steps of:

depositing with the carrier mail containing the recipient's name and physical address and the sender's name and address;

capturing the name and physical address of the recipient and the sender;

translating the name and physical address of the recipient into an e-mail address;

notifying the recipient of the availability of the deposited mail;

notifying the carrier of the manner in which the recipient would like the mail delivered;

notifying the carrier that the sender does not elect the deposited mail to be diverted; and

delivering mail to the recipient in the manner specified by the recipient to the carrier, if the sender elects to permit the recipient to divert the mail.

2. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the sender places an indication on the mail specifying that the mail should not be diverted by the recipient.

3. The method claimed in claim 2, further including the step of:

charging the sender for placing an indication on the mail specifying that the mail should not be diverted by the recipient.

4. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the sender places an indication on the mail specifying that the mail should be delivered only as specified by the sender.
5. The method claimed in claim 4, further including the step of:
charging the sender for placing an indication on the mail specifying that the mail should be delivered only as specified by the sender.
6. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the recipient notifies a data center who notifies the carrier of the manner in which the recipient would like the mail delivered.